scriptive requirements of the law, it is to be understood that the details herein are to be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

What is claimed is:

1. An accommodating intraocular lens for implantation within the capsular bag comprising:
   (a) a rounded, transparent, flexible optic having a peripheral edge;
   (b) an annular skirt extending radially from the periphery of the optic and generally encircling the optic, said skirt being positioned to extend radially into the periphery of the capsular bag; and
   (c) the optic and skirt flexing to change the position of the optic with respect to the cornea responsive to expansion and contraction of the zonules and ciliary body as occurs during accommodation; and
   (d) means for forming a connection of tissue ingrowth and/or tissue adhesion between the capsular bag tissue and the skirt so that the action of the capsular bag tissue and the zonules can tension the skirt during accommodation, thereby altering the curvature of the optic.

2. An accommodating intraocular lens for implantation within the capsular bag comprising:
   (a) a rounded, transparent, flexible optic having a peripheral edge;
   (b) an annular skirt extending radially from the periphery of the optic and generally encircling the optic, said skirt being positioned to extend radially into the periphery of the capsular bag; and
   (c) the optic and skirt flexing to change the position of the optic with respect to the cornea responsive to expansion and contraction of the ciliary body as occurs during accommodation; and
   (d) wherein the skirt has a tissue receptive surface that allows tissue ingrowth and/or tissue adhesion thereto to support the optic in position, so that the tissue can tension the skirt during accommodation.

3. The intraocular lens of claim 1 or 2, wherein the optic is elastomeric.

4. The intraocular lens of claim 1 or 2, wherein the intraocular portion of the eye which is removed is the lens nucleus and cortex of the eye, wherein said optic is a lens having an anterior convex surface separated from a posterior convex surface, and wherein the void is the space between the iris and the anterior surface of the vitreous body inside the lens capsule which extends radially toward the ciliary body.

5. The intraocular lens of claim 1 or 2, wherein there is further provided an outer annular porous portion that extends radially outward from said skirt and encircles the exterior periphery of said skirt.

6. The intraocular lens of claim 5, wherein there is further included an inner, annular, porous portion extending radially inward from said skirt encircling the inner periphery of said skirt in a contacting relationship with the periphery of said lens, allowing an interpenetrated body between said lens and said skirt.

7. The intraocular lens of claim 6, wherein there is further included an annular, closed, pore barrier portion in said skirt between said inner and said outer annular porous portions.

8. The intraocular lens of claim 1, wherein said annular porous portion is an outer annular porous portion that extends radially outward from said skirt and encircles the exterior periphery of said skirt;
   wherein there is further included an inner, annular, porous portion extending radially inward from said skirt encircling the inner periphery of said skirt in a contacting relationship with the periphery of said lens, allowing an interpenetrated bond between said lens and said skirt; and
   wherein there is further included an annular, closed, pore barrier portion in said skirt between said inner and said outer annular porous portions, said pore barrier portion having a pore size less than 90 microns.

9. A method of implanting an intraocular prosthesis in the eye, comprising the steps of;
   (a) making an incision in the eye;
   (b) removing the natural lens of the eye from the capsular bag;
   (c) inserting a flexible optical element into the capsular bag, the element having at least one convex surface and an annular, flexible, portion extending radially outward from the periphery of the element;
   (d) manipulating the optical element and the skirt into the capsular bag between the iris and the vitreous body wherein the flexibility of the annular skirt allows the insertion of the intraocular prosthesis into the capsular bag;
   (e) placing the optical element in the capsular bag so that the skirt is placed in contact with the internal peripheral tissue of the capsular bag; and
   (f) closing the incisions; and
   (g) allowing the surrounding capsular bag internal peripheral tissue to form a mechanical attachment to the skirt via tissue ingrowth and/or tissue adhesion sufficient to tension the skirt during accommodation.

10. The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of allowing the surrounding capsular bag internal peripheral tissue to grow into the skirt.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein the optical element's flexibility allows alteration of the position or shape of the optical element, and wherein there is included the step of altering the shape of the optical element during accommodation.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the step of altering the position or shape of the optical element includes the step of focussing an image through the vitreous chamber into the retina of the eye by the altering of the position of the optical element.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein the step of altering the position or shape of the optical element includes the step of focussing an image through the vitreous chamber into the retina of the eye by the altering of the shape of the optical element.

14. The method of claim 9, wherein the optic is fluid filled.

15. The method of claim 9, wherein the flexible optical element is comprised of materials of different refractive indeces.

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